Hartford News



SPECIAL



Saturday, July 18

7:30 PM- 9:30 PM

Visit hartfordjazz.org to subscribe to our YouTube for streaming of the 2020 Virtual Fest

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the annual Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz (GHFJ) will not be held outdoors in Bushnell Park this summer. Instead, a virtual concert will be streamed this Saturday, July 18, from 7:40-9:30 pm. The full outdoor festival will resume in Bushnell Park in 2021 with a "Jazz Meets Blues" theme to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz.

GHFJ's "Virtual Jazz Fest" will be a prelude of what will be in store when the outdoor festival returns in 2021. This exciting, first-time virtual concert will air on GHFJ's website and be shared across all of their social media platforms, including YouTube, Facebook and Instagram.

"The Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz is a staple of the summer season in Hartford. For nearly 30 years, they have brought incredibly talented musicians to our community and celebrated local artists. While it's disappointing, we can't celebrate together this year, we are excited about the Virtual Jazz Fest," said Cathy Malloy, CEO of the Greater Hartford Arts Council, which organizes the Summer in the City program that helps make the festival possible. "We hope people will enjoy the virtual event as we continue to celebrate art, music and culture in the Capital City."

The GHFJ Virtual Jazz Fest will feature two hours of traditional, smooth, Latin and straight-ahead jazz along with a touch of blues performances (see pages 2-3). Like the outdoor festival, the virtual concert will feature performances from both local and national artists and more!

The community is invited to creatively incorporate their favorite elements of the Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz experience, including picnic ambiance, favorite foods and more. Please

follow the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines while doing so.

"We will miss the energy and vitality that the Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz brings to Hartford, and it's hard to imagine a summer without jazz in Bushnell Park, but we are looking forward to the creative, Virtual Jazz Fest we will get to enjoy this year," said Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin. "The GHFJ Board of Directors is making the right decision to prioritize public health and safety, and I am grateful to them for their careful consideration."

The outdoor Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz will resume July 16-18, 2021 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the festival. To learn more about the festival and how to support it, visit www.hartfordjazz.org or follow them on Facebook at Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz.

Hartford...Once Upon a Time



April 4th, 1968: More than 50 years before the Black Lives Matter movement, after hearing of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. many HPHS seniors and some juniors staged a peaceful walkout from the school. They stopped at St. Joseph's Cathedral to pray and then continued on to City Hall where Mayor Ann Uccello (arrow) came out to meet with them and hear their concerns. They spoke of disparities between the manner in which the school's guidance counselors had been advising the black senior boys vs. those who were white as to their post-high school plans, recommending that they apply for work at Pratt & Whitney instead of pursuing a college education, which was in sharp contrast to Dr. King's view that higher education was the surest path to social mobility and self-fulfillment.

Downtown Library Re-Opens

Hartford Public Library began welcoming customers back to the Downtown Library, 500 Main Street, this past Monday, July 13.

The Downtown Library will now be open Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 6 pm, and Friday from 9 am to 5 pm. Saturday service will be added from 9 am to 5 pm beginning August 3.

Services that will be available:

- One hour computer sessions
- Fax, copy and scanning
- Passports, notary public services and municipal IDs by appointment.
- The American Place and the Hartford

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The Hartford News July 16 - 22, 2020

GREAT HARTFORD FESTIVAL OF JAZZ

VIRTUAL JAZZ FEST | SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2020 | 7:30 - 9:30 PM

Hi Jazz Family,

I am Charles Christie, President of The Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz, coming to you from Hartford CT. Home of the Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz, 2020, Wow! As we all adjust to these changing times where Covid-19 and the senseless murder of George Floyd and others have raised havoc, consciousness, and a sense of urgency to act on our nation.

I am thankful and hopeful that our nation will see change because our young people are engaged for the right reasons. They have an idea of the world they want to live in, and it is not this one, the way it is right now. Folks are not born with racism in their heart, they are taught that nasty thing. Many people, here and around the world have woken up. I hope that those people who believe in systematic oppression; see, believe, and have a change of heart to come to an understanding that Black Lives – do - Matter.

With that being said: Jazz Family we are here for a celebration of music and life.

I trust that you are using all the right safety measures for you, your family, and friends. Wash your hands for 20 seconds, wear a mask and, do social distancing where need-

Are you Ready! Are you Ready! Are you ready to have a Jazzy Good Time? Sit back, be it; you are out and about, in your house, or your yard, and no matter what device you're on, Have a Good Time! As Bob Marley said: One good thing about music when it hits you, you feel no pain – enjoy the journey Jazz Fam – Peace from the GHFJ Family – Here we go!



Liviu Pop & Friends

One of Connecticut's best-kept secrets is drummer Liviu Pop. Born and raised in Romania during the communist regime, Liviu and his wife, Raluca, left their native country 15 years ago to make a new life for themselves in the USA. At the time of this decision, Liviu was holding the drum position in one of Romania's top Pop/Rock bands. Liviu knew he had hit the ceiling of a musician's career in • Romania, and that fact, coupled with his deep devotion to American Blues Music prompted the move. With very little money in their pockets and only • a basic grasp of English, the couple made their way west.

Liviu Pop is a versatile drummer who plays a wide variety of genres, including blues, soul, funk, jazz, electronic and experimental. He was inducted into the Connecticut Blues Hall of Fame in 2018. He has played all over the region, much • of New England, the United States, and still returns to Europe three or four • times a year. He has performed with a virtual who's who of blues artists, including Hubert Sumlin, Sam Lay, Lucky Peterson, Debbie Davies, Lil' Dave Thompson, and Toni Lynn Washington.



The Phantom Blues Band

The Phantom Blues Band Are An Internationally Renowned Two-Time Grammy Award Winning Group.

have contributed to Blues and Rock and Roll musical history as session players and sidemen with scores of artists from . Taj Mahal and Bonnie Raitt to Elton Indiana and considers Detroit her sec- ers/vocalists, whose style bridges vir-John and Ziggy Marley. The Phantom • ond hometown. A gifted psalmist and • tually all genres, brings forth his new Blues Band explores everything from song writer, Michon has been singing singer songwriter release "Simple Texas Blues to Memphis Soul with an and writing since the age of 12. She Man." His credits include two #1

Percussion): Tony started playing in Pastor Marvin L.Winans to sing back- and Home," and tour credits that span Houston, Texas and has toured and ground on his debut concert in the globe. With ten albums as a jazz recorded with the likes of Eric Burdon, Detroit, Michigan for the release of his and blues guitarist under his belt, the Rickie Lee Jones, Bette Midler and 1st solo CD, "Alone but Not Alone." new album "Simple Man" adds his Bonnie Raitt.

went on to record with Smokey Studios in Atlanta, Georgia. Robinson and The Crusaders and dur- Michon has opened for Grammy country music veteran Steve Dean.)with many reggae artists.

Frampton, Cher and many more.

Sublett started his career as part of the five year period. 1970s Austin blues scene playing tenor • sax with Paul Ray and The Cobras alongside a twenty-one year old Stevie • Ray Vaughan.

Johnny Lee Schell (Guitar / Vocals): Johnny Lee got his start in music work ing with Norman Petty, the famed producer who was responsible for Buddy Holly in Clovis, New Mexico.



Kevin Powell and Company

Kevin Powell is a professional musician based out of the Hartford, roots began in the church & since, has • Euge Groove, Eric Darius and Michael • of 19, he was invited to perform in Cuba Together and separately, these six men grown to become a highly respected

music industry such as: (Kim Burrell, JazzTrax Debut Artist of the Year. Donnie McClurkin, Fred Hammond Adam has also been a guitarist to Legendary Gospel Jazz Musician • Lopez, Brian Culbertson, Natalie Cole, Kevin is also a national musician with • name just a few. the Churches of God in Christ (COGIC) He holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts with over 7 million members world from the University of Southern wide and he has traveled all over the California and currently teaches at world spreading God's love through . Musician's Institute, Chaffey College, the joy and power of music.



Michon Young

injection of Reggae for good measure. started her professional musical songs as a jazz guitarist, his own line Tony Braunagel (Drums and career by being hand selected by of Pulaski furniture called "Rhythm" She has traveled extensively singing incredibly unique and soulful voice to Larry Fulcher (Bass Guitar): Larry background for Pastor Winans and the mix. began his musical career singing in was honored to sing a duet with him The new album "Simple Man" feachurch at age five in Houston, Texas. He • at the Grand Opening of Tyler Perry • tures eleven songs, four co-written

ing the eighties toured and recorded Award Winner CeCe Winans, Dean's writing includes #1 hits for renowned Jazz trumpeter TL Williams Reba Mcentire, Rodney Atkins, Mike Finnigan (Keyboards / Organ / and a host of others. Michon has also Waylon Jennings, George Strait, Vocals): Mike has toured and been a ppeared on several local televised Alabama, and many more. The album session musician for Jimi Hendrix, Joe programs including the Dorinda Clark-brings together soulful Americana, Cocker, Etta James, Sam Moore, Cole nationally syndicated television retro country twang, sweet melody, Crosby Stills and Nash, Buddy Guy, show. Michon released her debut and from the heart emotion. Manhattan Transfer, Taj Mahal, Michael album "Possessing the Promise" in McDonald, Maria Muldaur, Peter 2011. In 2015, Michon's single "Always Remember" was ranked #1 Joe Sublett (Saxophone): Grammy in the UK's soul and jazz charts of best and W.C. Handy Award winner, Joe independent songs within the past



Adam Hawley

Jeff Ryan and Kat Hawley.

musician who has performed with & Lington. And in 2016, Adam was been produced for many artists in the named both Smooth Jazz News and

etc.) Kevin has done various tours the stars, appearing with a who's who throughout the Country of Japan for • list of artists in a wide variety of genover the last 14 years with his father & "res. Credits include Dave Koz, Jennifer "Hubert Powell" & The Heavenly Choir. Brian McKnight, and American Idol to

and Saddleback College.



Matt Marshak

Michon is a proud native of Gary, One of the most unique guitar play-

with Nashville writers Cara Hogan and



Damian Curtis Latin Jazz Project

Born into a family of music connoisseurs, Damian Curtis was trained to play the piano at a young age. Damian began studying at The Artists Collective, Inc. as well as Guakia, Inc. as a teenager. It was at these two institutions that he would Six #1 hits. 60+ dates per year. begin an intensive study of both "jazz" Adam's first two albums stormed up and various forms of "Latin music", the charts in unprecedented fashion working under the tutelage of the late, setting the stage for his third release, • great giant of the alto saxophone, Jackie "Escape." The album features guest McLean, along with well-known regional appearances by Najee, Rick Braun, musicians, such as pianist and key-Michael Lington, Marcus Anderson, boardist Joe Velez, trumpeter and flugelhornist Ray Gonzalez and percussionist Adam signed with Kalimba Music and vibraphonist Ed Fast. Throughout (founded by Maurice White of Earth, high school, Damian attended The Wind, & Fire) in August 2015. His first Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts, Connecticut. Born into a family of offering on the Kalimba label features where he studied under the likes of Dave musicians & singers, Kevin's musical Brian Culbertson, Gerald Albright, Santoro and Paul "PB" Brown. At the age

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as a member of "Latin Flavor," a band he • had formed along with his brothers.

He continued his studies at the prestigious Hartt School of Music at The University of Hartford under the continued watchful eye of Jackie McLean. McLean not only guided the young • musician, but also made him a part of his band, including in conjunction • with a performance for then President \$\s^2\$ of the United States, Bill Clinton. • had an opportunity to study and perform with trombonist Steve Davis, bassist Nat Reeves and pianists Andy • LaVerne, Michael Weiss and Alan Jay Palmer.



Eric Darius

For Eric Darius there are no limitations when it comes to breaking new ground. Internationally known as an elite Jazz/R&B/Pop Saxophonist, Songwriter, Producer, and Performer, Darius recently dropped, "L.O.V.E Feat. Brian Culbertson" the third single from his seventh studio album, Breakin' Thru, which debuted at #2 on the iTunes Top 40 Jazz Albums Chart. 9

This project is an extra special milestone for Darius as it is his first release via his own independent label, SagiDarius Music. The title track and debut single for Breakin' Thru has been a staple on Contemporary Jazz radio reaching #1 on the Billboard Charts, as well as his second single Dare 2 Dream, which reached the Top 5 on the Billboard Charts.

Breakin' Thru features 10 original songs with co-production by Darius, Rodney Jones, Jr. (Chris Brown, Mary Mary, Mary J. Blige) and Butta N' Bizkit 🙎 (John Legend, Ne-Yo, Miguel, Ledisi). Eric is currently on a worldwide tour promoting the Breakin' Thru album, dazzling audiences globally with his dynamic show.



OGFA Dance troop -Ginette Christie

Ginette Christie aka Gin "Siren" Christie was born in Hartford CT. She started dancing at the age of 6, taking tap classes at the Artist's Collective in Hartford CT, with Mama Shervl Smith. After a year of going to The Collective. Ginette took a break from dance. She later started attended the Artist's Collective again at the age of 14 up

danced had many great teachers such and today's top hits with a brass twist. own CD, developed a couple of years as Aka, Jolet Creary, Lovet, Mike They have toured nationally from earlier while Rex, James and Kevin Gamble, Tom etc. After Ginette left the coast to coast, as well as internation were members of the Massachusetts-Artist's Collective she went on to ally and have been featured in all cor- based Jus Us Band. During their 12+ choreograph shows, train and take ners of the live music scene. From years with Jus Us Band, they opened classes at BDC, perform with different playing sold out shows at Madison for Howard Hewitt, Harold Melvin's companies, travel around the new Square Garden as the horn section for Blue Notes, The Manhattan's and other England area and down south to bat- Dispatch, to Camp Bisco, to closing legendary groups. They were also the tle, as well as teaching classes in CT, out The Peach Music Festival, their sole entertainers at the annual and MA area. Ginette Started her performances flow seamlessly from Basketball Hall of Fame Enshrinement While at The Hartt School, Curtis also brand Odd C.Ty this year, October DDM festivals to jam band festivals to Ceremony for nearly 10 years. These 2019. Ginette loves to inspire and traditional New Orleans second line seasoned performers also closed out encourage people through the parades. They were also recently fea- the Saturday festivities at the Greater expression of art.



Michael Childs the **Musical Movement**

Mike "McKeys" Childs, born a Hartford native. Mike has travelled around the world uplifting spirits with his musical talents playing: Gospel, R&B, Jazz, Rock and Soul Music. He has dazzled and inspired many with his gift of music and his powerful performances in places such as: Japan, Korea, Portugal, Germany, Africa, Linda May Han Oh Brazil, to name a few. Mike has also played for the United States Military Tours. Mike is an accomplished Musical Director and Minister of Music. God has also gifted Mike with • Brown Monday Might Jazz the gift of singing. He currently is lead singer with the wall known show band, Soul Sound Revue in the New England area. Mike stays grounded because he realizes his gifts are from God. One of Mike's biggest inspiration is, his love for his family. His beautiful wife Darlene, five children, eight grandchildren, one brother and, to name a few mentors, Pastor Powell, Chris Big Dog Davis, Timmie Maia and a host of other musical legends who are an inspiration in his musical career. These are the ingredients that helps Mike transform into "McKevz" when he hits the stage.



Funky Dawgz Brass Band

The Funky Dawgz Brass Band are one of the premier touring acts on the live music scene today. Emerging from Connecticut, these young men have engulfed the spirit and traditions of New Orleans as well as earned the respect from local musicians who grew up and reside in the city. It is impossible not to enjoy yourself during a show as they play a contagious upbeat mix of traditional New Orleans

tured multiple times on national tele- Hartford Festival of Jazz for more than 8 vised programming on ESPN (house vears. As Personal Touch, they have just band for March Madness Tournament of completed their premier CD entitled Challenge, opening segment of First 'Better With Time'. The recording has a

they are giving back to the communi- a tacular original titled 'Take Me Back'. ty. The Funky Dawgz aim to connect, Personal Touch has also contributed engage, inspire and rejuvenate music 2 background vocals to the recordings of education in inner city schools across two artists; the incomparable Kenny the country. The band frequently Hamber and French recording artist gives performances and master class- 'Lou'. Lastly, they have recently signed middle, and high schools across the Management and have many impendregion. Come see what all the hype is ging performances nationwide. So now about.



with Fabian Almazan In collaboration with Hartford Jazz Society/Paul

Before the pandemic hit, bassist Linda May Han Oh and pianist Fabian Almazan were already forces to be reckoned with, but for the most part, they kept their creative practices separate. Oh leads her own groups, including the one for her album Aventurine, and performs as a member of others, such as Pat Metheny's quartet. Almazan is a critically-acclaimed pianist for trumpeter Terence Blanchard and the founder of the environmentally-conscious record label Biophilia.

Together, dare we say, they are one of today's premiere jazz power couples, especially now as they wrap-up Biophilia's 14-day online jazz festival on May 23.

"We're adapting to the tech side of streaming/recording, and I'm helping out here and there," Oh says. "He's definitely the brains (and the beauty!) behind bringing people together and creating a platform for all the artists to share their work, all within such a short period of time."



Personal Touch

Personal Touch was officially formed in 2016. The idea to create an old school-

until she was 18 years old. She R&B, original music, hip hop, funk, style R&B group as well as record their combination of cover songs with the When the band is not playing shows Personal Touch flair, along with a speces to young musicians in elementary, with Michael Yorkell and Hipshot the excitement builds for what lies ahead in the future of Personal Touch. One thing is for sure, it's going to be a fun ride!



Brubeck Brothers

Chris and Dan Brubeck have been making music together practically all their lives. Drummer Dan and bassist, trombonist, and composer Chris cut their first record together in 1966nearly a half century ago. They've subsequently played a variety of styles in a number of different groups, as well as with their father, jazz giant Dave Brubeck, and with their own Brubeck Brothers Quartet. With Dan and Chris as the foundation, guitarist Mike DeMicco and pianist Chuck Lamb, complete this dynamic quartet. They perform at concert series, colleges, and jazz festivals across North America and Europe including the Newport, Detroit, Montreal, Playboy/Hollywood Bowl, and Monterey Jazz Festivals. Quartet's last cd, LifeTimes was a hit on the Jazz Week radio chart where it made the Top Ten list as one of the most played jazz recordings of the year.

Although the Quartet's style is rooted in "straight-ahead" jazz, their concerts reveal an inherent ability to explore and play odd time signatures while naturally integrating the influences of funk, blues and world music. The group's creativity, technique and improvisation can be heard in their uncompromising music, which reflects their dedication to melody, rhythm, culture and the spontaneous spirit of jazz.

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GREAT HARTFORD FESTIVAL OF JAZZ

VIRTUAL JAZZ FEST | SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2020 | 7:30 - 9:30 PM

FESTIVAL HISTORY

he Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz is a non-profit organization originally conceived by Paul Brown, noted Hartford jazz bassist and music educator. For 28 years, Paul had produced the Monday Night Jazz Concerts in Bushnell Park, drawing thousands of music lovers to Hartford's Bushnell Park for picnics and world-class entertainment. That first Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz, in July of 1991, was dedicated to the 25th anniversary of those wonderful



Paul gathered some friends to help plan that first festival, but ultimately turned the Festival over to a Board of Directors comprised of volunteers from the Central Connecticut area, who continued to fulfill his dream of a world-class jazz event in Hartford, while he concentrated on his professional career and the Monday Night Jazz Concerts. Now in its 29th year, this free-of-charge Festival is supported by small and medium-sized charitable gifts and donations from foundations, businesses and corporations as well as City of Hartford and State of Connecticut grants. The Festival is also generously supported by contributions from individual jazz lovers throughout the region.

Notable performers at the Festival have included: The McCoy Tyner Big Band and Arturo Sandoval (1993); The Duke Ellington Orchestra under the direction of Mercer Ellington (1994); The George Shearing Quintet (1995); Nancy Wilson (1996); The Heath Brothers and John Hendricks (1997); Dave Brubeck (1998); Marion Meadows and The Dizzy Gillespie All Stars under the direction of Jon Fadis (1999); John Scofield, Chuck Mangione, the Ramsey Lewis Trio and Nicholas Payton (2000); Gerald Albright and Herbie Mann (2001); Phil Woods, Bobby Caldwell and Joe Sample (2002); Billy Taylor, Sonny Fortune and Euge Groove (2003); Joey DeFrancesco, Byron Stripling and Peter White (2004); Ahmad Jamal and newcomer Eric Darius, Pieces of a Dream, Yellowjackets (2005); Mike Phillips, Kim Waters and the Woody Herman Big Band, Shawnn Monteiro with Special Guest Clark Terry (2006); Joyce Cooling, Pamela Williams, Gerald Albright, and Kevin Mahogany & The Kansas City Review (2007); Jeff Lorber, Nick Colionne, Four 80 East, and Kendrick Oliver & the New Life Orchestra (2008); Paul "Shiltz" Weimar, Bobby Lyle, Bob Baldwin, Azar Lawrence and The Rippingtons (2009); Doc Gibbs & N' Fusion, Lao Tizer, Chieli Minucci, Karen Briggs (2010); Curtis Haywood, Cindy Bradley, Matt Marshak, Paul "Shilts" Weimar, Steve Cole, Ralph Peterson, Al Foster Quartet with Special Guest Wallace Roney (2011); Elan Trotman with special guest Gerald Veasley, Jeff Golub, The Sax Pack, The Hartford Symphony Orchestra Jazz & Strings featuring Jimmy Greene (2012); Ed Byrne's Latin Jazz Evolution, Ace Livingston, Toscha Comeaux, Walter Beasley, Tom Browne (2013); Manuel Valera, David Sanborn, David Davis, Urban Jazz Coalition, Brian Simpson, Sherry Winston, Javon Jackson, Azar Lawrence (2014). Tony Succar, Monty Alexander and The Kingston Express, Maysa, Kim Scott, Dezron Douglas Featuring Abraham Burton, Anthony Wonsey and Victor Lewis, Airmen of Note (2015); Jonathan Butler, Marcus Anderson, Najee, Carl Allen, Haneef N. Nelson, Rene McLean (2016); Aziza Miller, Althea Rene, Jeanette Harris, Oli Silk, JJ Sansaverino, Ray Toledo, Donald Harrison (2017); Spryo Grya, Michon Young, Bernie Williams, Nestor Torres, Mike Casey featuring Bernito Gonzolvas (2018).

The Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz has grown to be the largest FREE jazz event in New England, with an average attendance of over 60,000, and attracting more than 70,000 fans during the three day Festival in 2019!

The COVID-19 pandemic presented the GHFJ Board with an unprecedented situation. But, like a great jazz musician, the board improvised and a solution was soon found. This year's festival will be held on line with a stellar line-up of jazz greats with a little blues added to the mix. And plans are already underway to make the festival's 30th anniversary in 2021 the best ever!

Over 100 volunteers donate their time to work at the Festival, a true testimony to the popularity to which the Festival has risen since its 1991 debut. The Festival has a history of presenting national and international mainstream, cutting-edge, traditional and contemporary jazz performers, aspiring local and regional artists and some truly wonderful young musicians from area schools and noteworthy jazz programs. During the Festival's lifetime, music history has literally been written on stage, perfectly matched by the intensity and appreciation of its audiences.

Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz 2020 Board of Directors

Executive Board

President, Charles Christie | Vice President, Ric Casciano | Secretary, Pat Tyson Assistant Secretary, Joyce Hudson | Treasurer, Tiffany Cooper

Board of Directors

Debra St. Germain, Glenn Spencer, Renee Smith Elijah Boyd, Gemma Varney, Tiana Correa

Support the Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz and get

The Coolest Shirt in Town!

Please show your support for the Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz by making a donation today!

All donations of \$50 or more will receive a free commemorative t-shirt. Made of 100% Airlume combed and ringspun cotton, it just might become your favorite t-shirt ever!

Go to barkerstores.com/ghfj/ for more information. For other donation options go to www.hartfordjazz.org.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



Evelyn W. Preston Memorial Trust Fund











Technologies



Department of Economic and Community Development

Office Of The Arts

July 16 - 22, 2020 **The Hartford News**

Hartford Athletic Opens Season Monday at Dillon Stadium Attendance Limited to 25 Percent of Maximum Capacity

After a lengthy delay due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Hartford Athletic, the city's professional soccer team, will open their 2020 season this Monday, July 20, at 7 pm at Dillon Stadium. The game against Loudon United will be broadcast nationally by ESPN2. Seating will be limited to 25 percent of the stadiums maximum capacity.

Safety protocols include:

- Staff, vendors and fans will not be permitted to enter the stadium without wearing a mask. Masks must worn at all times while in the stadium (except while consuming food and beverage).
- Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrance/exit of each gate for fans to utilize upon entering/exiting. There will also be hand sanitizer stations throughout the concourse and bathrooms.

Solitary Garden

539 Broad St

800 Main St.

75 Laurel St

75 Laurel St

800 Main St

Yoga in the Park

Bushnell Park

101 Reserve Road

Harriet Beecher Stowe Center

Forge City Works Farmers' Market

Old State House Farmers' Market

Connecticut's Old State House

Park Street Farmers' Market

Corner of Park and Washington

Old State House Farmers' Market

Online Children's Art Therapy Summer Course

50 Church Street or watch on Facebook Live!

Unveiling, Black Lives Matter Mural

Pope Park * Instructor still being sought

Virtual - Charter Oak Cultural Center (go to FB Group for details)

3rd Annual Outdoor Summer Pops Concerts on Church St

West End Farmers' Market,

385 Farmington Ave

Yoga in the Park

Yoga in the Park

Bushnell Park

Swift Factory

Yoga in the Park

Yoga in the Park

Yoga in the Park

Colt Park

Men in Black Movie

Elizabeth Park East Lawn

Elizabeth Park

Elizabeth Park

Frog Hollow / KNOX Farmers' Market

Frog Hollow / KNOX Farmers' Market

Farmers' Market at the Regional Market

Summer Concert Series: Dixieland Stomp

16-Jul

16-Jul

17-Jul

17-Jul

17-Jul

18-Jul

20-Jul

20-Jul

20-Jul

21-Jul

21-Jul

21-Jul

22-Jul

22-Jul

22-Jul

23-Jul

23-Jul

25-Jul

26-Jul

- Fans will enter at different gates throughout the stadium based on the section they are seated
- Non-touch ticket scanners to be used by all ticket scanners in full PPE (mask & gloves)
- Flow of traffic in the concourse will be marked for right-side traffic only.
- Seating ushers will be located throughout the stadium to assist and enforce safe and distanced seating protocols
- All concessions will be in individual packaging or containers
- All in-stadium purchases will be completely cashless and contactless payment
- There will be a "no try-on" policy for all merchandise items
- Bathroom attendants will be stationed in every available rest-

VIEW FROM THE PARKS

This is the first View from the Parks Calendar in 2020! Be

sure to go to our Facebook Page "View from the Parks" to

read up on Covid requirements..

Hartford's Parks and

Recreation Advisory Commission

room to consistently wipe down and sanitize touch points as well as manage social distancing and

- Tailgating will be PROHIBIT-ED in all lots
- Post-game autograph sessions or other situations in which players would be in direct contact with fans is PROHIBITED

Hartford Athletic Season Ticket members and Flex Plan holders receive priority to attend matches with a waitlist in place for single match tickets. Visit www.hartfordathletic.com/single to sign up.

Season Ticket members also have access to an innovative redemption program that will allow for special access to unique experiences and opportunities for the value of the tickets associated with canceled matches this season.

Opens at 7 AM Daily

11 AM - 2 PM

10 AM - 2 PM.

12-1pm

3 PM - 6 PM

6 AM - 9 AM

9:30 AM - 1 PM

3 PM - 6 PM

5:30 PM

10 AM - 2 PM

4 PM - 7 PM

5:30 PM

11AM-Noon

Noon - 1:30 PM

5:30 PM

5:00 PM

5:30 PM

9-11 PM

10:00 AM

10:00 AM

Of the People?

COMMENTARY BY TOM SWARR

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

The current Black Lives Matter movement is a call to reinforce our commitment to the noble goals of our Founding Fathers and ensure that "all men" is understood to apply to ALL, regardless of sex, color, religion, country of birth, or any other aspect of what it means to be human. While we must con-

front the immoral compromises made by those human Founding Fathers that were not fully resolved even by the Civil War, we should also pay heed to the words of Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg and seek "a new birth

of freedom-and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." Our government of the people too often fails to serve the public good. Legislators at every level have abandoned their responsibility to govern for fear of saying or doing something that might complicate their next election campaign. This has led to overreaching executives and activist judges. Recent Supreme Court rulings on the rights of dreamers and LGBT+ only endorsed the views of a vast majority of the public. These issues should have been decided by legislators enacting appropriate laws. Too often, controversial issues are passed like a hot potato to a "Big Daddy" leader. Legislators are selected and rewarded based on their loyalty to the agenda of their political faction. This would not have surprised our Founding Fathers. They understood human nature and tried to design a government structure that could limit the harm of selfserving political factions. One of their biggest fears was that the "public good is disregarded in the conflicts of rival parties...and

measures are too often decided not

Library Re-Opens

Continued from page 1

History Center by appointment. All customers will be required to wear masks while in the building and must observe other safety protocols including social distancing and limited occupancy in elevators.

All customers will enter from Main Street and exit on Arch Street.

Only the first floor will be accessible for use.

Contact-free pick up service for materials will continue, along with the extensive offerings of online services and virtual programming.

For more information, visit hplct.org.

according to the rights of justice ...but by the superior force of an interested and overbearing majority." (Federalist Paper No. 10) They saw only one way to create a government that had a common interest and sympathy with the people. "Frequent elections are unquestionably the only policy by which this dependency and sympathy can be effectually secured." (Federalist Paper No. 52)

In Hartford, our Democratic majority was anointed by a mere 13% of the registered voters. Many in the city are not even aware of the November elections, thinking that the mayor and council are selected over the summer

> by the Democratic Town Committee (DTC). We get a slate of "team players" that will obediently back the mayor's agenda. The Hartford City Council actually rejected resolutions that would have required they hire the most qual-

ified candidate for a job or only lawyers that had not been sanctioned for misconduct. Loyalty to the party is the only mandatory requirement. Unless we are willing to start holding legislators accountable to the public good, our democracy is in danger.

There have been many common- sense reforms proposed to ensure our elections are more competitive, open, and hold elected leaders accountable. Open primaries where voters can participate regardless of their party affiliation force candidates to seek common ground. Ranked choice voting makes it easier for independent candidates to (Of the people?) challenge the major parties. Term limits can help ensure fresh ideas and prevent an entrenched elite of career politicians. Court decisions defining corporations as "persons" have tilted the system to favor candidates more interested in fundraising and campaigning than the hard work of governing. Politicians are unlikely to enact any of these reforms without a loud and persistent demand from the people. Make your voice heard. Please take this poll to share your opinions on election reform https://joinsamct.org/blog/sam-ctelectoral-reform-questionnaire/. And if you have not yet responded to Census 2020, please get countimmediately https://my2020census.gov.



THE HARTFORD NEWS

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Published by Southside Media 563 Franklin Ave., Hartford, CT 06114 (860) 296-6128 FAX 866-875-3785 • E-Mail: hartfordnews@aol.com

The Hartford News is published weekly on Thursday by Gamut Publishing, Inc. The publisher does not assume responsibility for errors, omissions, and changes in advertising or editorial material. Advertising rates are available upon request. Deadlines: Advertisements, news releases and articles must be submitted by 5 pm on Monday for publication on Thursday.Rights and Permissions: The entire contents of the Hartford News are copyright 2006 by Gamut Publishing, and no portion may be reproduced in whole or in part by any means without specific written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved.

Correction

In last week's edition of the Hartford News, two items in the timeline chart of the appointed city department heads were incorrect. Development Services Director Erik Johnson served from 10/2018-6/2020. Chief Operating Officer Thea Montanez served as Acting COO beginning in 2018 until her current appointment in January 2020. During that time, she concurrently served as the mayor's Chief of Staff.

The Hartford News July 16 – 22, 2020

Reopening Athletic Play in our Parks

BY DONNA SWARR

Active City website. Another camp

may be offered later in the summer

depending on how much funding is

left. These camps are being held at

the UConn Hartford Campus. The

cost is \$25 per player, but some

financial assistance is available.

Play is on Tuesday and Thursday

Providing each player with their

own kit will allow them to offer a

hybrid program using ZOOM if

necessary. When players practice

skills in a line, there's fencing to

keep everyone in their own lane.

Players can be placed in their own

zones with barriers ensuring that

they don't go into someone else's

area. Gallagher worked with

William Soccer Academy to pro-

vide another camp, which is cur-

rently at capacity, using the same

format. Asked what was going real-

ly well, he noted the support from

the CT Junior Soccer Association

regarding guidelines, as well as

assisting him with obtaining equipment and safety gear, including

The biggest challenge to camp

organizers is the cost of the equip-

ment for each player, and keeping it

safe and clean. Without financial

support in addition to the camp fees is it isn't possible. He said parents

are still worried about exposure to

the virus and that transportation is a

barrier. Many people are avoiding

the buses except when absolutely

necessary and carpooling is not an

option at this time. Many youth

clubs and leagues closing down

thermometers.

between

5-6pm.

evenings

This was the first week when a team could get a permit for an athletic field in our parks to play a game. Before that, individual skill development or training was allowed under State guidelines. Now you can play a game.

When you sign up to use a field, there's a link on MyRec to the State guidelines. So what's really happening out there? Brian Gallagher, Active City, is grateful for the CT Junior Soccer Association's hard work to use the State guidelines, available on their home page, and adapt them to youth soccer. As a result, his organization went through the COVID-19 certification program. Active City is running a camp sponsored by AT&T, and each participant is provided with equipment to use when practicing at home and at the field, including a soccer ball, equipment bag, resistance band, folding ladder, and cones. The program is for individual skill development and will last six weeks, but they won't be playing games. There's funding for 50 kids; 25 are currently enrolled. Signup is still available on the

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The CRCOG requests qualified vendors for indefinite quantities of hand sanitizer, surface disinfectants, protective masks, and other personal protective equipment. The intent is to provide small businesses with a limited list of qualified vendors; each purchaser will make its own orders and payments. Information is at https://crcog.bonfirehub.com/.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Deborah A. Dorman, AKA **Deborah Ann Marie Dorman** (20-00529)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated July 10, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas, Clerk

The fiduciary is: Brvan Christian Todd Townsend c/o Malcolm F Barlow, Malcolm F. Barlow, Attorney At 172 East Center Street,

Manchester, CT 06040

permanently.

Hall of Fame in consultation with Connecticut Cricket League and the West Indian Foundation have implemented guidelines developed by Cricket Ontario, Canada and The International Cricket Council, leading up to resumption of Adult and Youth Cricket in Connecticut. A proposal to play cricket was made to the City of Hartford for approval. Currently there are four teams Keney Park teams and two that play at Riverside Park, sponsored by the West Indian Foundation. I spoke with Kevin Hussain, Past President of the Connecticut League about their plans to play. He said that just like the governors of New England and New York, the three Connecticut and Massachusetts leagues want to act in unity about reaching a decision regarding the season; a decision is expected at the end of the month. Currently only 20-30% of the players are interested in playing. The concerns are that these games are a family activity. Multiple generations attend the games including many elderly people. New York leagues have cancelled the season. He said that they have a great approved plan, and now they need to discuss it as a region. They're leaning towards an abbreviated season or cancellation like most sports leagues in the region.

walk in the park, you will see some teams playing, but nothing like last year or the year before.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Anthony M. Donadio (20-00498)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated July 6, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Francesca Knerr, Esq. Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is: Michael McDonald c/o Mark H Neikrie, Andros Floyd & Mille, 864 Wethersfield Ave. Hartford, CT 06114

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Marcela Juarez Espejo (20-00564)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated July 14, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas, Clerk

The fiduciary is: Jose O. Espejo 17 Robbins Lane, Apt. E Rocky Hill, CT 06067

In the adult leagues, the Cricket

Most likely when you go for your

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Mary Bryant (20-00180)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated July 9, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Francesca Knerr, Esq. Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is: Lisa Marie Fov. Lisa M. Foy, Esq., P.O. Box 1158 Canton, CT 06019

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF William D. Addison, Jr. (20-00569)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated July 14, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas, Clerk

The fiduciary is: Cheryl Addison Folston, 309 Westland Street Hartford, CT 06112

Truth to Power

Councilman Josh Michtom weighs in on city issues with candor and surprising insight

Part one of a two-part interview

BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

Attorney in the Office of the Public Defender, city activist, founder and leader of the Hartford Hot Several band, and part-time stay-at-home dad. Those are the many hats worn by freshman City Councilman and Working Families Party member Josh

some city residents who've been wondering why their elected representatives have continued to stay mum on the issue. He crafted a resolution--also supported by Councilwoman Wildaliz Bermudez — that appeared on Monday's meeting agenda; as expected, the



Michtom. Last week, he was thrust into the spotlight by being the only council member to speak publicly about Hartford Chief of Police Jason Thody in the wake of his May 31st accident on Route 154 in Haddam, an incident rife with confusing and inaccurate details that has cast a pall of doubt over City Hall, the Connecticut State Police, and the council itself. Michtom has called for Thody's immediate firing, echoing the sentiments of

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF

Shirley Williams

(20-00554)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge

of the Court of Probate, District

of Hartford Probate Court, by

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ordered that all claims must be

presented to the fiduciary at the

address below. Failure to

promptly present any such

claim may result in the loss of

rights to recover on such claim.

Francesca Knerr, Esq.

Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Samantha Rose

30 Greenwich Street

Hartford, CT 06120

resolution was not voted on that night but sent to committee, where it is likely to languish. In an interview with the Hartford News, Michtom was forthcoming about that as well as other issues that he feels the council must focus on this year.

"The City Council has not been talking about this (Thody). It's a very curious approach, and the position on council doesn't come with access to power. I don't understand why they don't want to rock the boat", said Michtom. Asked if he believed if there was a chance that his resolution would be passed by a vote from the majority Democratic council, he replied "Not a chance. I reached out to the folks on council and didn't know where they would stand, but I had some hope. At this point, I would settle for Thody's resignation. It's hard for me to speculate about the mayor's motivation and strategy. If I had to guess, it will be punishment of some sort." Since then, Mayor Bronin has continued to stand by the police chief in spite of mounting evidence that both his actions and inaction violated several policies, but did issue him a mild reprimand and ordered him to pay for the cost of repairs to his

Continued on page 7

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Howard Simms (20-00542)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated July 10, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas,

The fiduciary is: Tasha Rose c/o David Michael Poirot Gold, Levy & Poirot 21 Oak Street, Suite 300 Hartford, CT 06106

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF

Willie James Nixon (20-00495)The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge

of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated July 10, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas, Clerk

The fiduciary is: Veronica Nixon 2 Craigmore Rd. Bloomfield, CT 06002 July 16 – 22, 2020 The Hartford News 7

Josh Michtom Interview

Continued from page 6

city vehicle involved in the accident. As Michtom sees it, the mayor's defense of Thody may be due to the "wide consensus" that previous Chief of Police David Rosado, a Bronin appointee, did not work out, and he may be reluctant to repeat that loss with Thody.

In a recent post, city blogger Kevin Brookman posited that the lack of significant disciplinary action meted out to Thody by the mayor is solid evidence of a culture of "white privilege" at HPD, and that a black or brown officer who committed the same alleged offenses as Chief Thody would have been immediately suspended and rigorously investigated. " I absolutely agree with that", Michtom said. "I had a conversation with a rank-and-file HPD member today who said the exact same thing. I think it really shows the parallels between policing in this country—which has traditionally created a class of people who enforce the law without being subject to it-and white supremacy more generally, which creates two systems of law; one for white folks and one for everyone else. And of course, the consequences would be even more severe for a black or brown civilian."

Councilman Michtom suggested earlier this year that Hartford's police force could be reduced by

about 200 officers. That has been met with mixed reactions from the citizenry, and he elaborated on his proposal. "I think there's a great deal of law enforcement that doesn't require armed police. Traffic enforcement, responses to quality of life complaints, and a wide array of other low-level offenses can be handled—perhaps betterby unarmed city employees Councilwoman Bermudez and I don't want to ignore certain crimes and QOL issues that affect out city. We just want to take a differen approach to them."

In Part 2 of Josh Michtom's interview next week, he shares his views on the challenges and frustrations the minority party faces in making headway within the Democratic party-controlled City Council, the powerful role the Democratic Town Committee plays in city politics and elections, the upcoming City of Hartford Charter revision and what changes are most important, and what has been lost with virtual council meetings replacing public ones.

WISH LIST

All I want for my birthday is...

COMMENTARY BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

On July 17th, 1953 I turned 3 years old and had a party. My mother, always a great baker, honored my wish for a "real" cake from Mikkelsen's Bakery on Park Street, covered with plenty of frosting flowers and candles stuck in plastic animal-shaped holders. My gifts were a doll I named Betty, a child's size fake pearl necklace and matching bracelet, a stuffed cat made of rabbit fur tinted pale blue (I longed for a cat, but the apartment building we lived in didn't allow pets), and a yellow rubber duck to enhance my Saturday night baths. I was a happy camper. Life was simple then, and good. This Friday I'll be 70 and life remains simple—except when it's complicated—and still pretty good. So what is there to want?

In recent years it's become common to see people's birthdays announced on Facebook with "For my birthday this year I'm asking for..." usually followed by the request for a donation to a non-profit or a worthy cause. Nothing wrong with that, but I just can't bring myself to ask anything of people with whom I wouldn't ordinarily exchange gifts, and am perfectly content with handmade cards from the grandchildren, phone calls or texts from friends and family, and

usually a gift or flowers from the sons. But this milestone year, I am asking for some things from all of you who are reading this.

Use the power of the vote, and please use it wisely; Hartford desperately needs more participation from its constituents in order to



make this city a better place for all of us. Be an independent thinker and take your cues from your conscience and integrity. Volunteer! By doing so your world becomes wider and your understanding of the disparities that exist here are eye-opening and can be life-changing. Speak up when you become aware of local issues that impact you or others negatively, and don't back down.

Embrace the vitality and diversity of the people of Hartford, and recognize that every single one of us is worthy of the basics: respect and kindness.

On a personal level, laugh long and loud and hard at every opportunity; even when things seem grim you can find the humor that'll help you get through. Talk to strangers often, or at least smile at them. Those conversations in themselves are a part of lifelong learning and becoming a true citizen of planet Earth. Don't be afraid to break into song or even a little dance in public. Yeah, some folks might think you're crazy but others will be enchanted and will see it as a memorable part of their day. Take the time to learn people's names and use them whenever you can; it humanizes us all to be recognized as individuals in an often impersonal world. Whenever you can pay a sincere compliment to someone, go for it—a feel-good effort that costs nothing and creates good will. And as Da Mayor said to Mookie in Spike Lee's landmark movie about race relations, "Always do the right thing."

With sincere thanks in advance, Anne

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1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Appliances included. Parking. Call John 860-805-

Hartford, North End

3 bedrooms, 44 Edgewood St. Large rooms. Stove, fridge, washer/dryer hookups in kitchen. Very nice condition. Cold flat. \$1,100 monthly plus one month security deposit. Section 8 welcome. Call 860-983-5939.

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22 Evergreen Avenue, Hartford

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El Informativo Latino

Alerta para realizar actividades al aire libre; Las garrapatas y los mosquitos llegarán a su punto máximo este verano

Los científicos de la estación experimental Agricola de connecticut se unieron al senador richard blumenthal ayer jueves para advertir sobre los riesgos que representan los mosquitos y las garrapatas en esta temporada de vera-

El Dr. Phil Armstrong, que dirige el Programa de Vigilancia de

Mosquitos en la estación dijo que las amenazas como la enfermedad de Lyme, el Nilo Occidental y la triple EEE (Encefalitis Equina del Este) amenazan a los residentes del estado, especialmente en estos meses de julio y agosto El año pasado (2019) se tuvo el mayor brote del virus

EEE en los Estados Unidos en más de 50 años y Connecticut tuvo 3 casos confirmados.

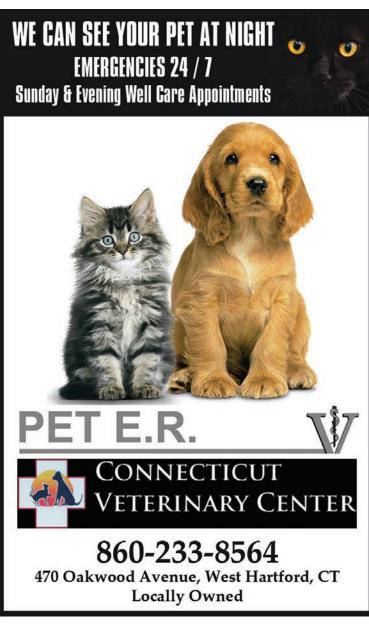
Armstrong dijo que alrededor de

doscientos o trescientos mil mosquitos de todo el estado serán evaluados en la estación de ag para detectar diversas enfermedades.

El senador Blumenthal y

Armstrong hicieron énfasis en la prevención si vas a estar realizando actividades al aire libre usar repelente de insectos es mandatorio además de estar alerta de la presencia de garrapatas si hay algún brote de estos por favor llamar al Departamento de Agricultura al (203) 974-8500.





COVID-19 Revela La Discriminación Educativa En Connecticut

POR MARICARMEN CAJAHUARINGA

"La función de la educación es enseñarle a uno a pensar intensamente y a pensar críticamente. Inteligencia más carácter: ese es el objetivo de la verdadera educación."

- Martin Luther King Jr.

Toda la vida, hemos crecido escuchando que la educación es la base del éxito, y que estudiar abre las puertas a más oportunidades, pero no todos tienen el acceso a una educación de calidad. Durante el periodo del aislamiento social, el Departamento de Educación de Connecticut, se vio obligado a tomar acciones rápidas para poder continuar con la curricular escolar implementando por primera vez una completa enseñanza virtual entre los 527,829 estudiantes activos en las escuelas públicas. Sin embargo, la falta de integración cultural y distribución de recursos económicos a los 206 distritos educativos destaparon la disparidad educativa en plena pandemia.

En los últimos años el número de estudiantes de comunidades minoritarias incrementó particularmente entre los latinos en casi el 42% en las escuelas del estado. Así mismo, los estudiantes de comunidades de color (morenos y latinos) constituyeron el 70% en 301 escuelas, y el 20% o menos del grupo demográfico en 415 escuelas.

Pero las disparidades se reflejan en el total de maestros que son parte de las comunidades minoritarias en Connecticut, el cual llegan a un pobre 9.6%, para la creciente comunidad de alumnos de diversidad cultural. Según el estudio del Dr. Jeremy Landa, de la universidad de UCONN, "Poco más de una décima parte de los distritos escolares de Connecticut emplearon entre uno y cuatro educadores afroamericanos, o hispanos por cada diez puestos".

A nivel nacional, Connecticut ocupa el sexto estado más densamente poblado del país. Así mismo, tiene una historia bien documentada de segregación residencial y escolar que notablemente no ha evolucionado con el pasar de los años.

En el 2015, Connecticut tenia un 3.4% de maestros de ascendencia afroamericana, y el 3.5% era de maestros hispanos. Sin embargo, la cifra no ha cambiado en más de un punto porcentual en los últimos 15 años.

En una reciente entrevista para Boceto Media, el Comisionado de Educación Miguel Cardona, hizo un llamado a maestros de comunidades minoritarias, "Hemos hecho el evento virtual para llamar a nuevos maestros inclusivos pueden comunicarse con la Dr. Shuana Tucker que es la directora de talentos, necesitamos maestros para ayudar, personas de color y con todas las experiencias". Este hecho es resultado de las continuas marchas del nuevo movimiento civil e inclusión racial en Connecticut.

Es muy importante, que en orden para educar a las futuras generaciones acerca de la importancia y respeto a la diversidad cultural, se tengan figuras modelo a seguir. En las escuelas, los maestros cumplen ese rol, que influye en la baja de los ausentismos escolares, las bajas calificaciones mejoran, se evita el abandono en culminar los estudios básicos. De esa forma, los estudiantes que siguen buenos ejemplos están más inclinados a continuar su educación en instituciones académicas superiores y aplicar a posiciones de liderazgo en sus comunidades para seguir con el desarrollo inclusivo de la sociedad.

"El currículo de inclusión pasó el año pasado para todos los distritos para el año 2021. Ellos tienen que ofrecer los cursos latino y afroamericano. Estamos trabajando en el currículo y se va a ofrecer para practicar en algunos distritos y el próximo año tenerlo fijo en todas las escuelas. Pero los distritos no tienen que esperar, ellos pueden proveer literatura de diferentes culturas", dijo la Dra. Gladys Labas para Boceto Media.

La crisis del Coronavirus, sacó a

relucir las desigualdades en el sistema educativo del estado. Durante la transición al sistema online, se cayó el delgado velo que tapaba la disparidad entre los distritos educativos con mayor apoyo económico, versus las escuelas de comunidades minoritarias pobres, y la gran diferencia en los recursos que utilizan los niños para su educación.

"El enfoque antes de COVID-19 era de atacar la superioridad de algunas razas. solo ven los estereotipos. Nosotros tenemos que hacer mejor", dijo Cardona.

No obstante, los padres de familia tuvieron que enfrentar los obstáculos de la repartición de laptops en medio de la pandemia, el cual se dificultaba en la comunicación entre los maestros, los bordes de educación y la oficina de educación estatal. Como resultado, las quejas incrementaron, y los niños experimentaron la desigualdad entre algunos distritos educativos que ya con años de anterioridad habían implantado una enseñanza moderna y digital, en contraste con las limitaciones de los recursos de los distritos educativos pobres que en su mayoría consta de las comunidades de color en las áreas urbanas.

Particularmente en Hartford, una de las ciudades más pobres del estado con un ingreso económico anual de \$34,338.00 y con mayor diversidad cultural, sus alumnos se enfrentaron a las barreras en recursos para continuar con su educación virtual. El borde de educación, no tenia disponible los Chromebooks para los estudiantes, y muchos de ellos perdieron días en su aprendizaje. Luego de la intervención de entidades sin fines de lucro, el cual donaron los dispositivos, los alumnos pudieron ponerse al día en sus estudios. Aun así, las contrariedades continuaron con algunos de las laptops no funcionales.

Por el contrario, Cromwell, uno de los distritos con una gran cantidad de población blanca y con un ingreso promedio de más de \$ 91,841.00 al año por hogar, no pasó esa necesidad. Los alumnos, fueron tranquilamente a sus hogares con sus Chromebooks o IPads, y siguieron a la par sus estudios durante todo el aislamiento social.

La pandemia del Coronavirus ha mostrado que los afroamericanos y los hispanos están desproporcionadamente empobrecidos. Connecticut, siendo uno de los estados más ricos de los Estados Unidos, no substituye la desigualdad educativa, socioeconómica y de salud, el cual afecta intensamente la educación de los niños a lo largo de líneas raciales y étnicas, por un cambio sistemático con mirada a un nuevo milenio.

"Debemos tener en cuenta que nuestro trabajo es cambiar el sistema, para que los niños sepan que tienen una historia de lideres, donde tienen el mismo poder y oportunidad de salir adelante", concluyó el comisionado de educación Miguel Cardona.

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